

AN ACT

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

*Codification
District of
Columbia
Official Code*

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To amend, on an emergency basis, the District of Columbia Unemployment Compensation Act to provide for a waiver of the waiting period, a temporary increase in weekly benefit amounts on a retroactive basis, a stabilization of contribution rates, and to exempt unemployment compensation benefits from income taxation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Unemployment Compensation Terrorist Response Emergency Amendment Act of 2001".

Sec. 2. The District of Columbia Unemployment Compensation Act, approved August 28, 1935 (49 Stat. 946; D.C. Official Code § 51-101 *et seq.*), is amended as follows:

(a) Section 1(5) (D.C. Official Code § 51-101(5)) is amended by adding a new sentence at the end to read as follows:

Note,
§ 51-101

"For benefit weeks in claims commencing on or after September 9, 2001, through March 9, 2002, an individual shall be deemed "unemployed" with respect to any week during which the individual performs no service and with respect to which no earnings are payable to the individual or with respect to any week of less than full time work if 80% of the earnings payable to the individual with respect to such week are less than the individual's weekly benefit amount plus \$40.".

(b) Section 3(c)(8) (D.C. Official Code § 51-103(c)(8)) is amended by adding a new subparagraph (D) to read as follows:

Note,
§ 51-103

"(D) Table V shall be used to determine contribution rates for calendar year 2002.".

(c) Section 7 (D.C. Official Code § 51-107) is amended as follows:

Note,
§ 51-107

(1) Subsection (b) is amended as follows:

(A) The unnumbered text is amended by adding two new sentences at the end to read as follows:

"Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, for weeks of benefits in claims commencing on or after September 9, 2001, an individual's weekly benefit amount shall be an amount equal to the amount of his or her total wages in insured work paid during the quarter of

his or her base period in which such total wages were the highest, divided by 17.33; provided, that for any benefit claim commencing after March 9, 2002, the maximum weekly benefit amount shall be that amount which would have been the weekly benefit amount but for the enactment of this provision. Any otherwise eligible claimant who can show evidence of a layoff or termination date on or after September 9, 2001, shall have his or her claim backdated to the date of layoff or termination".

(B) Paragraph (3)(B) is amended by adding a new sub-subparagraph (iii) to read as follows:

"(iii) For benefit weeks in claims commencing on or after September 9, 2001, the maximum weekly benefit amount shall be \$359; provided, that for any benefit week in any claim commencing after March 9, 2002, the maximum weekly benefit amount shall be \$309."

(2) Subsection (d) is amended by adding a new sentence at the end to read as follows:

"For claims commencing on or after September 9, 2001, an otherwise eligible individual shall be entitled during any benefit year to a total amount of benefits equal to 26 times the individual's weekly benefit amount or 75% of the individual's base period wage, whichever is the lesser; provided, that for any new claim commencing after March 9, 2002, the individual's entitlement to benefits shall be that amount which would have been the entitlement but for the enactment of this provision."

(3) Subsection (e) is amended by striking the phrase "individual for such week" and inserting the phrase "individual for such week; provided, that for benefit weeks in claims commencing on or after September 9, 2001, through March 9, 2002, \$40 will be added to the weekly benefit amount; from the resulting sum will be subtracted 80% of any earnings payable to the individual for such week."

(d) Section 9(5) (D.C. Official Code § 51-109(5)) is amended by striking the phrase "1 week" and inserting the phrase "1 week; provided that this paragraph shall not apply to new claims commencing on or after September 9, 2001, through March 9, 2002."

Note,
§ 51-109

Sec. 3. Section 47-1803.02(a)(2) of the District of Columbia Official Code is amended by adding a new subparagraph (R) to read as follows:

"(R)(i) Unemployment compensation benefits paid pursuant to the law of the District of Columbia or any state for benefit weeks in claims commencing on or after September 9, 2001 through March 9, 2002 .

Note,
§ 47-1803.02

"(ii) This subparagraph shall apply upon the certification by the Chief Financial Officer that monies are available to replace the projected loss of revenue in the approved District of Columbia financial plan and budget for fiscal year 2002."

Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

The Council adopts the attached fiscal impact statement as the fiscal impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(3)).

Sec. 5. This act shall apply as of September 9, 2001.

Sec. 6. This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), and shall remain in effect for no longer than 90 days, beginning on September 9, 2001, as provided for emergency acts of the Council of the District of Columbia in section 412(a) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 788; D.C. Official Code § 1-204.12(a)).

Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia

Mayor
District of Columbia